

## CLAIMS

1. A method for conserving power in a subscriber unit in a wireless communication system, said method comprising the steps of:

dividing a common channel into a plurality of recurring timeslots;

choosing an assigned timeslot from one of said plurality of recurring timeslots for transmission of messages to said subscriber unit;

reducing processing in said subscriber unit during at least one timeslot other than said assigned timeslot, thereby conserving power in said subscriber unit.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein said wireless communication system is a TDMA system.

3. A method for conserving power in a subscriber unit in a wireless communication system, said method comprising the steps of:

dividing a common channel into a plurality of recurring timeslots;

choosing an assigned timeslot from one of said plurality of recurring timeslots for transmission of messages to said subscriber unit;

stopping processing in said subscriber unit during at least one timeslot other than said assigned timeslot, thereby conserving power in said subscriber unit.

4. The method of claim 3 wherein said wireless communication system is a TDMA system.

5. A subscriber station in a wireless communication systems receiving messages in an assigned timeslot of a common channel, comprising:

a receiver for monitoring said timeslot to receive said messages;

a digital signal processor for processing said messages; and,

power conservation circuitry to reduce processing in said digital signal processor during timeslots of said common channel other than said assigned timeslot.

6. The subscriber station of claim 5 wherein said wireless communication system is a TDMA system.

7. A subscriber station in a wireless communication systems receiving messages in an assigned timeslot of a common channel, comprising:

a receiver for monitoring said timeslot to receive said messages;  
a digital signal processor for processing said messages; and,  
power conservation circuitry to stop processing in said digital signal processor during timeslots of said common channel other than said assigned timeslot.

8. The subscriber station of claim 7 wherein said wireless communication system is a TDMA system.